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of this part, but in any event as expeditiously as possible.

- (f) Transition plan. In the event that structural changes to facilities will be undertaken to achieve program accessibility, the Department shall develop, within six months of the effective date of this part, a transition plan setting forth the steps necessary to complete such changes. The plan shall be developed with the assistance of interested persons, including individuals with handicaps and organizations representing individuals with handicaps. A copy of the transition plan shall be made available for public inspection. The plan shall, at a minimum—
- (1) Identify physical obstacles in the Department's facilities that limit the accessibility of its programs or activities to individuals with handicaps;
- (2) Describe in detail the methods that will be used to make the facilities accessible:
- (3) Specify the schedule for taking the steps necessary to achieve compliance with this section and, if the time period of the transition plan is longer than one year, identify steps that will be taken during each year of the transition period;
- (4) Indicate the official responsible for implementation of the plan; and
- (5) Identify the persons or groups with whose assistance the plan was prepared.

[52 FR 11606, Apr. 9, 1987; 52 FR 23967, June 26, 1987]

§ 33.10 Program accessibility: New construction and alterations.

Each building or part of a building that is constructed or altered after the effective date of this part by, on behalf of, or for the use of the Department shall be designed, constructed, or altered so as to be readily accessible to and usable by individuals with handicaps in accordance with the requirements of the Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards adopted by the General Services Administration at 41 CFR §§ 101–19.600 to 101–19.607 (1984).

[52 FR 11606, Apr. 9, 1987; 52 FR 23967, June 26, 1987]

§33.11 Communications.

- (a) The Department shall take appropriate steps to ensure effective communication with applicants, participants, personnel of other Federal entities, and members of the public.
- (1) The Department shall furnish appropriate auxiliary aids where necessary to afford an individual with handicaps an equal opportunity to participate in, and enjoy the benefits of, a program or activity conducted by the Department.
- (i) In determining what type of auxiliary aid is necessary, the Department shall give primary consideration to the requests of the individual with handicaps.
- (ii) The Department need not provide individually prescribed devices, readers for personal use or study, or other devices of a personal nature.
- (2) Where the Department communicates with applicants and beneficiaries by telephone, telecommunications devices for deaf persons (TDDs), or equally effective telecommunications systems shall be used.
- (b) The Department shall ensure that interested persons, including persons with impaired vision or hearing, can obtain information as to the existence and location of accessible services, activities, and facilities.
- (c) The Department shall provide signage at a primary entrance to each of its accessible facilities, directing users to a location at which they can obtain information about accessible facilities. The international symbol for accessibility shall be used at each primary entrance of an accessible facility.
- (d) The Department shall take appropriate steps to provide individuals with handicaps with information regarding their section 504 rights under the Department's programs or activities. If the Department uses recruitment materials, informational publications, or other materials which it distributes or makes available to participants, beneficiaries, referral sources, applicants, employees, or the public, it shall include in those materials or publications a statement of the policy described in §33.6 of this part and information as to complaint procedures. The requirements of this paragraph